

Minutes of the Personnel Committee

Tuesday, August 3, 2004

Chair Paulson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Duane Paulson (Chair), Bob Thelen, Bonnie Morris, Jim Jeskewitz, Jeff Morris, and Genia Bruce. **Absent:** Tom Bullermann.

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Dave Krahn, Employment Services Manager Sue Zastrow, Mental Health Center Administrator Michelle Cusatis, Administrative Services Manager Russ Kutz, Clinical Services Manager Mike DeMares, Administration Director Norm Cummings, and Chief of Staff Allison Bussler.

Approve Minutes of June 1, 2004

MOTION: Jeskewitz moved, second by B. Morris to approve the minutes of June 1. Motion carried 6-0.

Schedule Next Meeting Dates

August 17th.

Chair's Executive Committee Report of 8/2/04

Paulson advised the Executive Committee discussed legislative issues such as the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights and state mandates with Senator Neil Kedzie. They also discussed and considered the ordinances and resolutions that were included in the last yellow packet. Chief of Staff Lee Esler will be drafting an ordinance to release encumbered funds for new rails for Wisconsin River Rail Transit. Paulson highlighted the Executive Committee's correspondence list.

Ordinance 159-O-041: Create Full-Time Psychiatrist Position and Abolish Part-Time Psychiatrist Position

Zastrow discussed the ordinance as outlined and said, historically, psychiatrists have been very difficult to recruit, including the latest part-time opening which has been vacant for months. Staff did, however, hear from a number of applicants willing to consider the position if it was full-time. In exchange for changing this to a full-time County position, the contracted psychiatrists' hours will be reduced. It's anticipated this will save about \$15,000 overall next year.

MOTION: Thelen moved, second by Jeskewitz to approve 159-O-041. Motion carried 6-0.

Resolution 159-R-007: Support for Creating a New Department of Emergency Preparedness and Transfer Airport to Public Works

Bussler said the first part of this ordinance involves combining Dispatch, Radio Services, and Emergency Management into one newly proposed department – a Department of Emergency Preparedness. The primary rationale is to improve communication and cooperation between each of these agencies. Bussler said communication is a key essential for a successful operation. She went on to discuss Emergency Management taking a more significant role both programmatically and in seeking greater amounts of state and federal grant funding. Cummings referred to the revised fiscal note. He said after the Dispatch Center has been up and running for a while, Richard Tuma, the current coordinator, will take the department head job without this jeopardizing center operations. Instead of abolishing a supervisor position and creating a department head they will be requesting to reclassify the communication center manager and create a department head. Cumming said merging these three divisions will result in an

immediate \$28,000 savings. He advised they will be requesting a new senior financial analyst position which will be included in the 2006 budget and among this person's duties will be obtaining grants.

A consensus of the committee was in favor of creating a Department of Emergency Preparedness.

Paulson distributed a handout from County Board Supervisor Joe Griffin who is against transferring the Airport to the Public Works Department. Bussler said the move of the Dispatch Center from Public Works on July 1 will allow staff to devote more time to other activities. Bussler said the Airport has only three staff members and any turnover, as well as planned vacations, could cause turmoil. Public Works staff would be available to provide any back-up if necessary for both management and support staff. Bussler said the Airport Commission has done a good job. However, if tax levy is going to continue to be used for Airport projects and improvements, and as more and more citizens express concerns, they believe it's best these projects be overseen by the elected officials of the County Board and County Executive offices. Cummings said County Executive Finley is requesting that the management role of the Airport Commission be eliminated but that they continue their advocacy role.

Paulson said major airport projects are still voted on by the County Board, even with the Airport Commission. Cummings said yes but felt citizen concerns, which are likely to increase as projects develop, could be handled first by Public Works Director Rich Bolte who would inform the County Executive who could then inform the County Board. Cummings said this is a good time to move the Commission to an advocacy role. Furthermore, the County Board and the County Executive are accountable for whatever happens at the Airport.

A consensus of the committee was in favor of transferring the Airport to Public Works although Thelen was opposed. Paulson said it's likely the County Board will vote on these two issues separately.

MOTION: Bruce moved, second by Jeskewitz to approve 159-R-007. Motion carried 6-0.

Closed Session

MOTION: B. Morris moved, second by Thelen to go into closed session at 2:15 p.m. in accordance with Section 19.85 (1)(e) Wis. Stats. for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining issues associated with the AFSCME Master Unit Contract, and to approve the closed session minutes of June 15, 2004. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: B. Morris moved, second by J. Morris to return to open session at 3:54 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: Thelen moved, second by Bruce to adjourn at 3:55 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Recorded by Mary Pedersen, Legislative Associate.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie J. Morris
Secretary